

need the government in the exam room.

#### ENERGY: WALL STREET'S NEXT BUBBLE

(Mr. DEFAZIO asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. DEFAZIO. Madam Speaker, Europeans have had a market-based cap-and-trade system on greenhouse gas emissions for 4 years, and it has failed. The last recorded year, \$60 billion in trades, that is added costs, and higher greenhouse gas emissions.

Now the House of Representatives wants to bring that European system here to the United States of America, despite its failures. Why? Well, the market-based approach is only a failure if your objective is meaningful and predictable real reductions in greenhouse gas emissions. Perhaps something else is afoot.

Europe already has a carbon offset futures derivatives market, complete with credit default swap insurance. Is it AIG and mortgages all over again but now with carbon? We are going to bring that here to the United States. Wall Street is tingling with excitement. A trillion dollars speculative market.

Listen to this: Carbon will be the world's biggest commodity market, and it could become the biggest market overall, Louis Redshaw at Barclays. Oh, Wall Street loves this so much. A brand new Wall Street bubble on something as essential as energy. Deja vu all over again.

#### CONGRATULATING CAROLINE COUNTY

(Mr. WITTMAN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. WITTMAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to express my sincere congratulations to Caroline County, Virginia, recipient of the 2009 All-American City Award for its outstanding civic accomplishments. This recognition is well deserved, and rightly honors Caroline County, which has long been dedicated to meeting the needs of its community.

Established by the National Civic League in 1949, the All-American City Award recognizes localities for community projects involving grassroots civic engagement and cooperation between public, private, and nonprofit sectors that best illustrate community-based problem solving. Each year, the National Civic League honors 10 communities throughout the country for effectively addressing the most critical challenges facing America's communities.

Caroline County submitted three community-based projects, including the Dawn Rehabilitation Project, the Caroline Library, and the Caroline

Dental Program. These projects blend public, private, and civic resources to address specific challenges of the community.

I am proud to see our citizens and local government work in concert to meet community needs. Caroline County was the only city or county from Virginia in a field of 32 finalists from across the country. The Caroline County delegation traveled to Tampa, Florida, to present the challenges and solutions for its community to a panel of national experts, and I am proud to recognize Caroline County as a wonderful and unique community of Virginia's First Congressional District for receiving the 2009 All-American City Award.

#### AMERICAN CLEAN ENERGY AND SECURITY ACT

(Mr. POLIS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. POLIS. Madam Speaker, I rise today in strong support of the American Clean Energy and Security Act. We are on the verge of an historic step that we have a responsibility and an opportunity to take for the health of our environment, our economy, and our Nation.

Opponents simply don't comprehend the magnitude of the problem of global warming or the opportunities that come with the solution. The U.S. is currently losing clean energy jobs and market share to Germany, China, and Korea. U.S. consumers continue to send \$400 billion a year to places like the Middle East and Venezuela every time we fill up our gas tanks.

Madam Speaker, we have a responsibility to enact swift and strong climate change legislation. It is absolutely false to suggest that this legislation will cost Americans. It will cost us more if we don't act.

With the consumer protections and increases in efficiencies that this bill puts in place, American families will save hundreds of dollars each over the next decade. Saving consumers money is hardly a tax. Saving businesses money is hardly a tax. Allowing American technology to stagnate while we pollute and pay to address that pollution, that is a tax that the American people are tired of paying and have paid for far too long.

The Democratic plan declares energy independence and puts America on a path to economic recovery.

#### TAXING AMERICAN FAMILIES IS NOT THE ANSWER

(Mr. WILSON of South Carolina asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Madam Speaker, House Democrats plan to vote on their national energy tax legislation this week. It defies common sense when the American people are

faced with losing jobs and families are making hard decisions about how to weather this tough economy. The Democrats' priority is to impose a new tax. This cap-and-tax proposal will lead to job losses, higher gas prices, and increased electricity rates on American families with \$3,128 of new taxes for each family each year. Moreover, it is also unnecessary when there are positive alternatives to promote clean energy technology.

An all-of-the-above energy policy would achieve the goals of a cleaner environment while promoting oil and natural gas exploration in America, invest in innovative new technologies and encouraging conservation and smarter energy use. Above all, it would be no new tax on American families nor would it punish small businesses. Taxing American families is not the answer to our energy needs.

In conclusion, God bless our troops, and we will never forget September the 11th in the global war on terrorism.

#### GEOGRAPHIC DISPARITIES

(Mr. WALZ asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. WALZ. Madam Speaker, reforming Medicare formulas so that they reward quality and value is one of the changes that must be part of any discussion on health care reform.

The Congressional Budget Office recognizes the problem of a simple fee-for-service payment system regardless of the quality of care our patients receive. That means we pay doctors for doing more tests and ineffective treatments.

In my home district of southern Minnesota, the Mayo Clinic is a model of providing high quality care at low prices. But because of the way Medicare payments are figured today, the Mayo Clinic is penalized for that. We must reward those that save money and at the same time provide the highest quality of care. This can be done by creating an index within the Medicare physician fee formula to simply measure quality.

I urge my colleagues to support the inclusion of this sort of provision in the final health care reform package.

#### AVOID EUROPEAN ENERGY MODEL

(Mr. TIAHRT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. TIAHRT. Madam Speaker, this administration and the Democrat Congress are pushing us towards European socialism through more government control. This week it is the energy economy. We are scheduled to consider the Waxman-Markey cap-and-tax scheme that will cap our growth and tax all of us.

In 2005, the Europeans implemented the emissions trading scheme, or ETS. ETS has increased household energy